

List of Claims

1 (Currently Amended). An optical switch comprising: a gas, wherein said gas has an electron density and said electron density is altered to effectuate a change in the path of a light ray plasma-field.

2(Currently Amended). The switch of claim 1 wherein: said ~~plasma-field~~ electron density is generated altered electronically.

3. The switch of claim 2 further comprising: a positive electrode; and a negative electrode.

4. The switch of claim 1 further comprising: an inlet port; and a plurality of outlet ports.

5. The switch of claim 4 further comprising: a plasma chamber.

6. The switch of claim 5 wherein: said inlet port and said plurality of outlet ports are contained within said plasma chamber.

7(Currently Amended). The switch of claim 1 wherein: said ~~plasma-field~~ electron density is ~~generated~~ altered by a laser.

8(Currently Amended). The switch of claim 1 wherein: ~~a light signal is reflected by said plasma-field~~ said change comprises reflecting said light ray.

9(Currently Amended). The switch of claim 1 further wherein: ~~The electron density of the plasma field is varied to alter the path of a light signal through the plasma field~~ said change comprises shifting a direction of propagation of said light ray through said gas.

10(Cancelled).

11(Cancelled).

12(Cancelled).

10/711,374
Reply to First Office Action